CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. An apparatus for resetting a fastener, comprising:

a guide member having a distal end and a proximal end, the guide member further having a length with a guide member axis therethrough, a distal stop positioned proximate the distal end, and a proximal stop positioned proximate the proximal end; and

an impact member having a length and an impact member axis residing along the length, where the impact member is attached with the guide member such that the impact member axis is aligned with the guide member axis, the impact member having a striking portion with a striking portion diameter and a proximal portion with a proximal portion diameter where the striking portion diameter is less than the proximal portion diameter, with the impact member positioned between the proximal stop and the distal stop, such that the impact member is freely slideable in relation to the guide member between the proximal stop and the distal stop, the distal stop defining an extended position and the proximal stop defining a retracted position, the extended position occurring when the striking portion of the impact member is extended beyond the distal end of the guide member, and the retracted position occurring when the entirety of the striking portion of the impact member is positioned between the distal end and the proximal end of the guide member; whereby a user may reset a fastener by forcing the impact member from the retracted position to the extended position, where the striking portion of the impact member is then extended beyond the distal end of the guide member to come into contact with the fastener and thereby reset the fastener below a surface plane of a material.

2. An apparatus for resetting a fastener as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the striking portion of the impact member further comprises a head portion with edges, wherein the edges of the head portion are beveled.

3. An apparatus for resetting a fastener as set forth in Claim 2, wherein the distal end of the guide member further comprises an outer surface and the outer surface further comprises a rubber surface engager attached with the outer surface.

4. An apparatus for resetting a fastener as set forth in Claim 3, the apparatus further comprising an extender positioned between the impact member and the guide member such that an extending force from the extender forces the impact member from the retracted position to the extended position.

5. An apparatus for resetting a fastener as set forth in Claim 4, the apparatus further comprising a cock and release mechanism attached with the impact member, whereby a user may retract the impact member where it is held in place by the cock and release mechanism, the user may thereafter release the impact member through use of the same mechanism, where the impact member is thereafter forced to an extended position by the extending force of the extender.

6. An apparatus for resetting a fastener as set forth in Claim 5, the apparatus further comprising a handle pole attached with proximal portion where the handle pole extends beyond the proximal end of the guide member, the handle pole further having a sliding attachment portion, whereby a user may attach a tool with the sliding attachment portion, allowing the user to reset a fastener through use of the guide member and impact member, or alternatively, turn the apparatus around to utilize the attached tool.

7. An apparatus for resetting a fastener as set forth in Claim 6, where the handle pole comprises at least two poles, an alignment pole and a sliding pole, where the alignment pole is selectively connected with the sliding pole through use of an adjustment lock.

8. An apparatus for resetting a fastener as set forth in Claim 5, wherein the proximal portion comprises an outer end with an attachment portion connected with the outer end, whereby a user may attach an extension with the attachment portion and utilize the extension to force the guide member from the retracted position to the extended position.

9. An apparatus for resetting a fastener as set forth in Claim 3, the apparatus further comprising a retractor positioned between the impact member and the guide member such that a retracting force from the retractor forces the impact member from the extended position to the retracted position.

10. An apparatus for resetting a fastener as set forth in Claim 9, the apparatus further comprising a handle pole attached with proximal portion where the handle pole extends beyond the proximal end of the guide member, the handle pole further having a sliding attachment portion, whereby a user may attach a tool with the sliding attachment portion, allowing the user to reset a fastener through use of the guide member and impact member, or alternatively, turn the apparatus around to utilize the attached tool.

11. An apparatus for resetting a fastener as set forth in Claim 10, where the handle pole comprises at least two poles, an alignment pole and a sliding pole, where the alignment pole is selectively connected with the sliding pole through use of an adjustment lock.

12. An apparatus for resetting a fastener as set forth in Claim 9, wherein the proximal portion comprises an outer end with an attachment portion connected with the outer end, whereby a user may attach an extension with the attachment portion and utilize the extension to force the guide member from the retracted position to the extended position.

13. An apparatus for resetting a fastener as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the distal end of the guide member comprises an outer surface and the outer surface further comprises a rubber surface engager attached with the outer surface.

14. An apparatus for resetting a fastener as set forth in Claim 1, the apparatus further comprising a retractor positioned between the impact member and the guide member such that a retracting force from the retractor forces the impact member from the extended position to the retracted position.

15. An apparatus for resetting a fastener as set forth in Claim 1, the apparatus further comprising an extender positioned between the impact member and the guide member such that an extending force from the extender forces the impact member from the retracted position to the extended position.

16. An apparatus for resetting a fastener as set forth in Claim 15, wherein the apparatus further comprises a cock and release mechanism attached with the impact member, whereby a user may retract the impact member where it is held in place by the cock and release mechanism, the user may thereafter release the impact member through use of the same mechanism, where the impact member is thereafter forced to an extended position by the extending force of the extender.

17. An apparatus for resetting a fastener as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the proximal portion comprises an outer end with an attachment portion connected with the outer end, whereby a user may attach an extension with the attachment portion and utilize the extension to force the guide member from the retracted position to the extended position.

18. An apparatus for resetting a fastener as set forth in Claim 1, the apparatus further comprising a handle pole attached with proximal portion where the handle pole extends beyond the proximal end of the guide member, the handle pole further

having a sliding attachment portion, whereby a user may attach a tool with the sliding attachment portion, allowing the user to reset a fastener through use of the guide member and impact member, or alternatively, turn the apparatus around to utilize the attached tool.

19. An apparatus for resetting a fastener as set forth in Claim 18, wherein the handle pole comprises at least two poles, an alignment pole and a sliding pole, where the alignment pole is selectively connected with the sliding pole through use of an adjustment lock.

20. A method for resetting a fastener below a surface plane of a material, the method comprising acts of:

locating an unset fastener;

placing a guide member over the unset fastener, the guide member having a distal end and a proximal end, the guide member further having a length with a guide member axis therethrough, a distal stop positioned proximate the distal end and a proximal stop positioned proximate the proximal end; and

causing the impact member to strike the fastener, the impact member having a length and an impact member axis residing along the length, where the impact member is attached with the guide member such that the impact member axis is aligned with the guide member axis, the impact member having a striking portion with a striking portion diameter and a proximal portion with a proximal portion diameter where the striking portion diameter is less than the proximal portion diameter, the impact member is further positioned between the proximal stop and the distal stop, such that the impact member is freely slideable in relation to the guide member between an extended position and a retracted position, the extended position defined by the distal stop and occurring when the striking portion of the impact member is extended beyond the distal end of the guide member, and the retracted position defined by the proximal stop and occurring when the entirety of the striking portion of the impact member is positioned

between the distal end and the proximal end of the guide member; whereby causing the impact member to strike the fastener moves the impact member from the retracted position to the extended position, thereby striking the fastener and driving it below a surface plane of a material.

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